

THREATS MADE TO MOSS.

DOCK COMMISSIONERS RECALCITRANT AT MAZET INQUIRY.

THEY SIMMER DOWN, HOWEVER, WHEN THEY SEE THAT COUNSEL CANNOT BE INTIMIDATED—REVELATIONS OF BLACKMAIL.

The Dock Commissioners furnished the fireworks at yesterday's session of the Mazet Committee, and although those who prepared them thought to be bombs turned out to be only firecrackers, they enlivened the proceedings and did no harm. Commissioner Peter F. Meyer, the real estate partner of Richard Croker, furnished the first interruption at the morning session. After listening for some time to testimony showing how Tammany inspectors had blackmailed the builders of grandstands during the Dewey celebration right and left, Mr. Meyer jumped to his feet, and in the particularly offensive tone which he has consistently employed in the presence of the Dock Board, insisted that the members of the Dock Board, who were present under subpoena, be excused until the afternoon.

Meyer declared yesterday was the regular day for the Dock Board to meet and that the city's business was being unreasonably and outrageously hindered by Mr. Moss's subpoena. This happened close to the noon recess hour, and the arrogant tone evidently irritated by Mr. Meyer, who would make his application during recess it would be considered. This did not satisfy Mr. Meyer, who shouted out that it would be too late for the Dock Board to meet after recess.

MAZET REBUKES MEYER.
Meyer began repeating his original remarks about "outrage" when Mr. Mazet rapped briskly for order and said to him: "Take your seat!"
"I won't," retorted Meyer.
"Sergeant-at-arms," called Mr. Mazet, "make that man take his seat!"
The sergeant-at-arms advanced toward Mr. Meyer and trouble seemed imminent, but Mr. Meyer sat down.

"A man holding such a public office as you do," said Mr. Mazet, "ought to be a gentleman, and not act in such an insolent manner."
"I think witnesses detained here," said Mr. Hoffman, "ought to be treated with more consideration."

"They are being treated with consideration," retorted Mr. Mazet, "but this man is impertinent and insolent to the committee."

"Well, it's an outrage!" shouted Mr. Meyer.
"You keep still!" exclaimed Mr. Mazet, "or the sergeant-at-arms will attend to you!"

"Then I'll just go out without your leave," replied Mr. Meyer, and clapping his silk hat on his head, he made for the door. No one opposed him. Just as he was going out he called back and said: "I suppose Moss will call my name as soon as I am downstairs." But his name was not called, and Mr. Meyer evidently thought better about defying the committee's subpoena, for he was back in his seat when the afternoon session began and sat there quietly until he was called to the stand.

INSULTS MR. MOSS.
Then his pent-up wrath found a new vent. Turning his back upon Mr. Moss and addressing the committee, Mr. Meyer said:

"I want to say now and here that I strenuously object to being examined by this person (indicating Mr. Moss) who has been blackmailed by his own people. I object to having any other reputable man examined by him. I discovered his true character some time ago in a business transaction which I had with him."

"Mr. Chairman," broke in Mr. Moss, "I have been threatened and warned that the next time I put a prominent member of Tammany Hall upon this stand and asked him any searching question, I would have my reputation ripped up. Now, I want to say to these people that even if they should succeed in blasting me off the face of the earth, my name may prove useful, and I will ask them any and all questions that may be needed to bring out the truth. Now, Mr. Meyer, I am ready for you!"

The committee, of course, took no notice of Meyer's absurd protest, and the Dock Commissioner, having fired his little squib and realizing that Moss, instead of being intimidated, was full of fight, sat down in the chair and answered all the questions put to him without a murmur.

UNFAIR RICH PRIZE.
The purpose of Mr. Meyer's testimony was that he wanted to give a large number of valuable paving contracts along the waterfront to the Uvalde Asphalt Company without advertising for bids, because he believed the Dock Board had authority to do so under Section 51 of the city charter. This section authorizes the letting of contracts for "repairing" pavements without advertising for bids, and Mr. Meyer contended that the Uvalde Asphalt Company was an asphalt paving company, and that the Dock Board had authority to do so under Section 51 of the city charter. This section authorizes the letting of contracts for "repairing" pavements without advertising for bids, and Mr. Meyer contended that the Uvalde Asphalt Company was an asphalt paving company, and that the Dock Board had authority to do so under Section 51 of the city charter.

Mr. Meyer gravely declared that he did not give these rivals a chance to bid, because he knew they had not as good asphalt as the Uvalde company. With equal gravity he asserted that it was not until after the Dock Board had leased Pier No. 1 to the Knickerbocker Towing Company for \$20,000 a year that he discovered the towing company's close financial connection with the Consolidated Ice Company. The towing company sublets part of it for \$22,000, and has two other tenants as well, to whom it sublets other parts of the pier.

PRESIDENT CRAM ON THE STAND.
Another Dock Commissioner, J. Sergeant Cram, president of the Board, also showed a decidedly recalcitrant spirit when he first began to testify, but subsequently changed his tone. Being asked why he gave contracts to the Uvalde Asphalt Company without calling for competitive bids he replied angrily:

"I approved those contracts because the law authorizes me to do so. Rather, the Board is authorized by Section 51 to do so. The law was passed by the reformers, Mr. Moss, I know you, and that is all the explanation I will give you."

"We are not talking about the reformers, we are talking about you," said Mr. Moss. "The section which gives the law in which emergency orders may be given. One is where repairs are to be made, and the other is where the pier has to be made to conform to the new pier plan. Now, which of these theories do you act upon when you give out the asphalt paving contracts without competition?"

"On the theory that we are making the pier conform to the pier line," was Mr. Cram's answer. Then he differed from Mr. Meyer. "I take the whole responsibility for this, and I would do it again. I recommended the Uvalde company as being the best. If I didn't obey the law, there's the Grand Jury. I will answer as to facts, but not as to my views."

"You said you gave the contract to the Uvalde company because they were the best. How did you find that out?"

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stand. I won't answer any more. I'm not here to make myself out incompetent. You're not trying to get the truth—you're trying to get what is false." Mr. Cram was plainly very angry.

"Do you mean to say that if you told us how you found out the best asphalt you would prove your own incompetency?" asked Mr. Moss suavely.

"No," said the witness.
"Did you test the asphalt?"
"Our engineers tested it."

"Do you know that the Uvalde company never laid a foot of asphalt in any Northern city before it got your contracts?"

"I really don't know. Why don't you subpoena the officers of the company?"

"We did, Mr. Cram, and they told us that they had not. Did you get bids from other companies?"

"I take the whole responsibility for selecting the Uvalde," repeated Mr. Cram, and Mr. Moss let it go at that. Mr. Cram added that he thought the rent paid by the Knickerbocker Towing Company for Pier No. 1 was too high, and said he did not know that the company had any connection with the Ice Trust.

INNOCENT MR. SHEA.
J. L. Shea, Commissioner of Bridges, was examined as to the reasons why Tammany had so eagerly pushed the construction of new bridges over the East River, at the time it was openly opposing the construction of the rapid transit tunnel, which it now seems to favor. Mr. Shea could not be brought to admit that the proposed expenditure of \$40,000,000 for new bridges would interfere with the issuing of all the bonds necessary for the tunnel, and Mr. Shea brought out the fact that Mr. Shea had located the proposed Blackwell's Island bridge so close to the spot where Dr. Ranney's old written-up franchise authorized his company to build its bridge that the city will be compelled to buy that franchise, either voluntarily or by the courts. He brought out also the suspicious looking circumstance that the Ranney franchise will expire in 1900 unless it has then completed its bridge. A bill introduced in the Senate to extend that franchise has failed, and if the bridge would build until 1901, to build the bridge over to Blackwell's Island it would not have to buy this franchise at all.

Nevertheless, Mr. Shea said he hoped to be able to sign the contracts for the construction of that bridge before six months have elapsed, and would do so if he lived. Being pressed by Mr. Moss to give some reasons for such haste, he could only say that it was a grand public improvement, and would bring the people of Queens County within twenty minutes of the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Mr. Shea's candid nature could not be brought to admit that he even entertained a suspicion that certain persons interested in the Ranney franchise wanted to take their white elephant off their hands. Mr. Shea would seem, according to his own showing, to be a simple man, and one easily imposed upon; but he keeps all his wits about him on the witness stand.

ANEIRIN JONES'S DISMISSAL.
George V. Brower, Park Commissioner for Brooklyn and Queens boroughs, who on Thursday discharged Aneurin Jones, an employee of that Department for ten years, being sworn, was asked by Mr. Moss if his reason for discharging the man was that Jones was going to testify before the committee regarding Brower's management of his Department. Brower denied that, and said Jones was not right in his mind. Mr. Moss declared that that was the real reason, and said: "Oh, tell us what is the trouble between you and Jones to the point."

"Well, sir, he put down a lot of screenings last summer on the Ocean Boulevard. He put down ten times as much as was necessary, and when he called it, cracks showed everywhere. It's a disgrace to my department."

"Well, Mr. Brower, but you know you say he is tender on the head. Tell us, please, what really is the trouble between you?"

"We advertised for North River gravel last year, as good as we had been using, that from Roa Hook. We could not get it. I awarded the contract to the lowest bidder, Mr. Malley, for North River gravel. The Roa Hook people got out a temporary injunction. The action still stands in the courts. Mr. Jones made an affidavit in that regard, stating that I had used a poor quality of gravel."

"Is it not a fact that this is the same gravel that you found fault with Mr. Jones for using on the Boulevard?"

"No, sir. No, sir. I'm of Revolutionary stock, Mr. Moss, and I would not rob the city."

"Ah, now we find out that the trouble between you and Mr. Jones grew out of the fact that Mr. Jones made an affidavit against you to prevent you from purchasing gravel which was not legally contracted for."

This met Mr. Brower still further, and again he wanted Mr. Moss to understand that he came from Revolutionary stock and would not swindle the city out of a cent.

Aneurin Jones then took the stand and swore that he had no quarrel with Mr. Brower, and that he had been mixed with clay that when laid on a road every rain washed so much of it away that it was wicked enough to be used on a highway. He swore that the same quality of gravel from the same gravel pit had been rejected by Manhattan Borough.

WONDERFUL LOSS OF LIFE.
Dr. Charles F. Roberts, Chief Sanitary Superintendent of the Board of Health, being called to the stand, produced certain documents called for in his subpoena. The first of these was a notification sent to Commissioner Brady, of the Building Department, and signed by President Murphy of the Board of Health, saying that there were no retiring rooms for women and children on the Jersey street, and declaring that at the close of the Centennial parade in this city the lives of five hundred women and children were lost for the want of retiring rooms. The witness then swore that Commissioner Brady, if his notice were not heeded he would apply to the judiciary to prevent the use of stands.

A second letter was to Dr. Roberts, from the president of the Board, directing him to make a report on the Jersey street. The witness then swore that he had been ordered to inspect the Jersey street, and that he had reported the stands again on October 1st.

The witness admitted that he had modified the order in the case of three or four contractors who called on him. The modification eliminated the necessity of sewer connections. The doctor declared he had no authority to modify the order when sending it out, but had the right to do so after it was modified. He declared that he had not been sent out before the stands were built.

Stephen E. Berry swore he had a stand during the Jersey parade at Sixty-ninth street and Central Park West. The stand was inspected by Stephen V. Carey, of the Health Department, and passed. Subsequently, the stand was inspected by the Board of Health, and the witness swore that he had reported the stands again on October 1st.

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present. Similar invitations have been sent to Justice Trust, of the Supreme Court, and to Recorder Goff, of the Court of General Sessions.

EXPLANATION BY MR. MOSS.
HE TELLS OF THE ONLY BUSINESS TRANSACTION HE EVER HAD WITH MR. MEYER.

After the close of the day's proceedings a Tribune reporter asked Mr. Moss what transaction Mr. Meyer had referred to, which had revealed to Mr. Croker's partner the true character of the counsel for the Mazet Committee. Mr. Moss laughingly said that he could remember having had only one transaction with Mr. Meyer.

Some years ago (Mr. Moss, acting as counsel for an estate, employed Mr. Meyer to sell at auction some railway bonds. They were duly knocked down to the highest bidder at a certain price a bond, but when the bidder came to pay his money it turned out that he had thought he was buying \$100 bonds, whereas the face value of the bonds was only \$50 each. Therefore a dispute arose over the terms of the sale. Meyer insisted that the bonds should be delivered to the purchaser at the lump sum which he had tendered. Mr. Moss stepped in, and the dispute was carried into the courts. There a decision was given in favor of Mr. Moss's clients.

All through Mr. Moss acted only as counsel and mediator, and he desired to conserve the interests of the estate. He says if Mr. Meyer can construe anything to the detriment of his reputation for any other transaction he is welcome to whatever joy it may afford him.

RAMAPO DECISION NEXT WEEK.
Albany, Oct. 6.—Attorney-General Davies will, it is said, render his decision in the Ramapo Water Company's case the first part of next week on the application of William R. Hearst for permission to bring suit for injunctions for the annulment of the company's charter.

THE PRESBYTERIAN ALLIANCE.
Washington, Oct. 6.—At today's session of the Pan- Presbyterian Alliance, Principal Caven, of Toronto, Canada, was chosen president of the alliance, succeeding the Rev. Dr. Lang, of Glasgow, Scotland. The recommendation of the Business Committee continuing the other officers and the Executive Committee was adopted.

Resolutions were adopted urging that the Bible be used in all periods of instruction in schools of learning, desiring that the alliance views with alarm the great number of divorces granted by the courts on unscriptural grounds, and asserting that the marriage relation should not be dissolved except on grounds laid down in the Scriptures, and that the divorce should be granted only on more strictly in opposition to the liquor traffic.

The Rev. Dr. W. H. Roberts, of Richmond, Va., presented a paper on the "History of the Western Section of the Alliance," and the Rev. Dr. Champlin spoke on "Missionary Work in Brazil." The Rev. Dr. Duffield, of New York, on "Christian Progress During the Nineteenth Century." It was a brilliant and eloquent address and a fitting conclusion of the formal sessions of the alliance.

ARMY AND NAVY ORDERS.
Washington, Oct. 6.—The following Army, Navy and Marine Corps orders have been issued:

ARMY.
Captain JOSEPH E. KILB, Corps of Engineers, is detailed to the Fortification District, New York City, to act as Engineer.

ALEXANDER M. KENNEY, 2nd Infantry, is detailed to the Fortification District, New York City, to act as Engineer.

Major JOHN H. CALFE, 1st Artillery, will report to the commanding general, Department of the East, for assignment.

Upon the discontinuance of the Department of the Gulf the following officers of the 1st Artillery will join the 1st Artillery, Department of the East, and will be assigned to duty.

First Lieutenant JOHN T. MARTIN, 1st Artillery, is detailed to the Fortification District, New York City, to act as Engineer.

First Lieutenant JOHN T. SEYMOUR, 8th Infantry, will be detailed to the Fortification District, New York City, to act as Engineer.

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